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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/843,760	04/30/2001	Lawrence M. Besaw	10006612-1	9179

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EXAMINER	
CHANKONG, DOHM	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2152	

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/843,760	BESAW, LAWRENCE M.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dohm Chankong	2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 December 2004*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *21-53* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *21-53* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1> Applicant's amendment and remarks, dated 12.9.2004 has been received. Claims 1-20 have been cancelled. Claims 21-53 are now presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

2> Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3> The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4> Claims 21-25, 39 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

a. Claims 21 and 22 lack proper antecedent basis: "said partitioned network";

b. Claims 23 and 24 lack proper antecedent basis: it is unclear if "said at least one module" is intended to reference the "at least one management information module" or perhaps "the security module" of claim 1;

c. Claim 39 lacks proper antecedent basis: "said user configuration database";

d. Claim 40 lacks proper antecedent basis: "said display filter" and "said selected module" – the relationship between "said display filter" and "at least one of said

display filters" is not made clear because claim 40 refers to only one filter, while its parent claim refers to multiple display filters or at least one display filter. Likewise, claim 26 refers to "selected ones of said plurality of modules"; this is not a clear antecedent to "said selected module".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5> The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6> Claims 21-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eckel, U.S Patent No. 2003|0009564 A1, in view of Teijido et al, U.S Patent No. 2002|0053020 ["Teijido"].

7> As to claim 21, Eckel discloses a method for filtering on-line service information provided through a management portal to a customer of customized network services provided by resources of a service provider network, comprising:

applying a display filter to resources of the server provided network, said display filter specifying network resources for which the on-line service information is desired by the customer [0010, 0014, 0039]; and

executing at least one management information module to generate a portal display of on-line service information, wherein said at least one management information module

operates on only those network resources of said service provider network which have not been excluded by said display filter [0052, 0053].

Eckel does not explicitly disclose utilizing a security filter.

8> In the same field of invention (management portals), Teijido discloses applying to said service provider network a security filter definable by service provider and not the customer, said security filter corresponding to the customer and specifying the network resources of said partitioned network allocated to that customer [0013, 0036, 0044]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Teijido's security filter (protocols) into Eckel's filtering system to provide a level of security in accessing and viewing network resources. Such an implementation would enhance Eckel's filtering system by allowing users to only access resources allocated to them by administrators of the system [see Teijido, 0036].

9> As to claim 22, Eckel does not explicitly disclose a method wherein applying said security filter comprises:

applying a customer sub-filter to provide an association of said corresponding customer and said network resources contained in said partitioned network allocated to the customer.

10> Teijido discloses applying a customer sub-filter to provide an association of said

corresponding customer and said network resources contained in said partitioned network allocated to the customer [0059, 0060]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Teijido's sub-filter into Eckel's filtering system to provide a level of security in accessing and viewing network resources. Such an implementation would ensure that the data is undisclosed to individuals without rights to access the data.

11› Claims 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eckel and Teijido, in further view of Richardson, U.S Patent No. 6.054.987.

12› As to claim 23, Eckel does not explicitly disclose an alarm module configured to display information regarding alarm conditions occurring in said non-excluded network resources.

13› Richardson discloses an alarm module configured to display information regarding alarm conditions occurring in said non-excluded network resources [column 2 «lines 17-26 and 45-62»]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Richardson's alarm module into Eckel's portal system to allow users to select nodes that would enable monitoring of alarm conditions in the network resources. One would have motivated to perform such an implementation enable users to more efficiently manage resources.

14> As to claim 24, Eckel does not explicitly disclose a topology module configured to display at least a graphical representation of network elements and connections between said network elements included in said non-excluded network resources.

15> Richardson discloses a topology module configured to display at least a graphical representation of network elements and connections between said network elements included in said non-excluded network resources [column 1 «lines 37-61»]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Richardson's topology module into Eckel's portal system to allow users to more clearly see a map of the configuration of network resources in the network. One would have been motivated to perform such an implementation as such a map would allow users to more effectively manage the network resources.

16> As to claim 25, Eckel does not explicitly disclose a network health module configured to display a status or health report of said non-excluded network resources.

17> Richardson discloses a network health module configured to display a status or health report of said non-excluded network resources [column 2 «lines 17-25»]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Richardson's health module into Eckel's portal system to allow users to keep track and remotely monitor network resources as needed.

18› Claims 26-30, 32, 37-45, 47, 52 and 53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lim et al, U.S Patent No. 6.434.619 ["Lim"], in view of Teijido.

19› As to claim 26, Lim discloses a method for filtering on-line service information presented through a management portal to a customer of customized network services provided by resources of a service provider network, comprising:

partitioning the service provider network into a plurality of partitioned networks [column 1 «lines 30-51» | column 3 «lines 22-29»];

allocating one of said partitioned networks to the customer [column 1 «lines 36-51» | column 20 «lines 61-62» | column 21 «line 28»];

providing a plurality of modules each configured to provide a respective portal display of on-line service information [column 4 «lines 46-51»];

storing, in a filter library accessible to the customer, of display filters each configured to specify customer-selected network resources to which selected ones of said plurality of modules is to be applied [column 4 «lines 46-66» | column 10 «lines 51-59»]; and

displaying a portal display of on-line service information generated from application of one of said plurality of modules to network resources resulting from application to the service provider network of at least one of said display filters [column 5 «lines 1-32» | column 10 «lines 24-59»].

Lim discloses a configuration database [column 7 «lines 56-60»] but does not disclose security filters or storing them in the configuration database accessible by the service provider and not the customer.

20> In the same field of invention (management portals), Teijido discloses applying to said service provider network a security filter definable by service provider and not the customer, said security filter corresponding to the customer and specifying the network resources of said partitioned network allocated to that customer [0013, 0036, 0044]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Teijido's security filter (protocols) into Lim's management system to provide a level of security in accessing and viewing network resources. Such an implementation would enhance Lim's management system by allowing users to only access resources allocated to them by administrators of the system [see Teijido, 0036].

21> As to claim 27, Lim does not explicitly disclose a method wherein applying said security filter comprises:

applying a customer sub-filter to provide an association of said corresponding customer and said network resources contained in said partitioned network allocated to the customer.

22> Teijido discloses applying a customer sub-filter to provide an association of said corresponding customer and said network resources contained in said partitioned network allocated to the customer [0059, 0060]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Teijido's sub-filter into Lim's management system to provide a level of

security in accessing and viewing network resources. Such an implementation would ensure that the data is undisclosed to individuals without rights to access the data.

23› As to claim 28, Lim discloses a customer sub-filter that is configured to filter on at least one of a node level and interface level of said service provider network [column 4 «lines 52-62» | column 5 «lines 1-24» : see Lim's interfaces].

24› As to claim 29, Lim does not explicitly disclose specifying an internet protocol host sub-filter of said security filter, said IP host sub-filter configured to filter on a network name of a network device.

25› Teijido discloses an internet protocol host sub-filter of said security filter, said IP host sub-filter configured to filter on a network name of a network device [0049, 0070 : "...limit access to only a predefined specific set of client machines."; "...host id"]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Teijido's host sub-filter into Lim's management system to provide a level of security in accessing and viewing network resources. Such an implementation would ensure that the data can be tailored to a specific set of client machines.

26› As to claim 30, Lim discloses specifying an internet protocol interface sub-filter of said security filter, said IP interface sub-filter configured to filter on an IP address of a network device [column 5 «lines 1-24»].

27› As to claim 32, Lim discloses the method of claim 26 further comprising specifying an interface selection sub-filter of said display filter, said interface selection sub-filter configured to filter one of a set of at least one network interfaces [column 10 «lines 24-59»].

28› As to claim 37, Lim discloses providing a network health module configured to display a status or health report network resources to which said network health module is applied [column 1 «line 63» to column 2 «line 3» | column 5 «lines 46-55»].

29› As to claim 38, Lim discloses storing a network health sub-filter of the display filter, said network health sub-filter configured to identify which of said network elements to monitor for said status and health report [column 6 «lines 13-32»].

30› As to claim 39, Lim does not explicitly disclose invoking said security filter by parsing a customer record in said user configuration database.

31› Teijido discloses invoking said security filter by parsing a customer record in said user configuration database [0105, 0111 where: Teijido discloses checking a user's ASP]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement Teijido's user verification functionality into Lim's management system to correlate a user with the documents or information that he is allowed to access. Such an implementation would provide increased

security in Lim's system by preventing users from accessing information that they are not allocated.

32› As to claim 40, Lim discloses invoking said display filter by invoking said selected module [column 5 «lines 7-32»].

33› As to claims 41-45, 47, 52 and 53, as they are merely systems that implement the steps of the method of claims 26-30, 32, 37 and 38, they do not teach or further define over the claimed limitations. Therefore, claims 41-45, 47, 52 and 53 are rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claims 26-30, 32, 37 and 38, supra.

34› Claims 31, 33-36, 44 and 48-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lim and Teijido, in further view of Richardson.

35› As to claim 31, Lim does not explicitly disclose a node selection sub-filter.

36› Richardson discloses a node selection sub-filter of said display filter, said node selection sub-filter configured to filter on network nodes of the service provider network [column 1 «lines 46-53» | column 5 «lines 45-48»]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Richardson's node filtering functionality into Lim's management system to enable users to manage network devices through a user selected view of the nodes in the network.

37› As to claim 33, Lim does not explicitly disclose an alarm module.

38› Richardson discloses an alarm module configured to display alarm conditions in network resources to which said alarm module is applied [column 2 «lines 17-26 and 45-62»]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Richardson's alarm module into Lim's management system to allow users to select nodes that would enable monitoring of alarm conditions in the network resources. One would have motivated to perform such an implementation enable users to more efficiently manage resources.

39› As to claim 34, Lim does not explicitly disclose an alarm sub-filter.

40› Richardson discloses storing an alarm sub-filter of the display filter, said alarm sub-filter providing filtering capability of a display of alarm categories [Figure 4 «"Event Categories"» | column 2 «lines 50-62»]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Richardson's alarm sub-filter into Lim's management system to enable users to select specific alarm thresholds and conditions that they wish to keep track of in their management system.

41› As to claim 35, Lim does not explicitly disclose providing a topology module.

42> Richardson discloses providing a topology module configured to display at least a graphical representation of network elements and connections between said network elements [column 1 «lines 37-61»]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Richardson's topology module into Lim's management system to allow users to more clearly see a map of the configuration of network resources in the network. One would have been motivated to perform such an implementation as such a map would allow users to more effectively manage the network resources.

43> As to claim 36, Lim does not explicitly disclose storing a topology map sub-filter.

44> Richardson discloses storing a topology map sub-filter of the display filter, said topology map sub-filter configured to identify which of said network elements and network element connections to include in said topology map [column 2 «line 63» to column 3 «line 20»]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Richardson's topology sub-filter into Lim's management system to allow users to control over what network devices are seen on a map of the network. One would have been motivated to perform such an implementation as such a map would allow users to more effectively manage the network resources.

45> As to claims 44 and 48-51, as they are merely systems that implement the steps of the method of claims 31 and 33-36, they do not teach or further define over the claimed

limitations. Therefore, claims 44 and 48-51 are rejected for the same reasons as set forth for claims 31 and 33-36, supra.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dohm Chankong whose telephone number is (571)272-3942. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (571)272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DC

Dung C. Dinh
Primary Examiner